



A cartoon illustration of a car labeled 'K-12' driving through a chaotic scene. Speech bubbles include: 'I HEAR THERE IS A SHORTAGE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS I WONDER WHY?', 'AAAAA', 'STOP PULLING MY HAIR!', 'GIVE ME BACK MY HOMEWORK!', 'BUTT HEAD!', 'HELP!', 'I MISSED MY STOP!', 'GO!', 'Cool!', and 'OZARD BAKERS ONLY PLEASE'. The car is surrounded by colorful circles and icons: a puzzle piece, a lightbulb, and a thumbs up.

# Supporting Specially Designed Transportation Plans



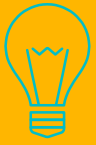
Cynthia Valentine  
*Director of Transportation*  
Novi Community School District

Shailee Patel  
*Director of Special Education  
Program & Services*  
Novi Community School District



# Short staffed?

How we work together to transport special needs and center program students?





Transportation Dept  
& Student Services  
Dept  
need to  
work together!




- What information does transportation need?
- Is the IEP team communicating before the meeting or inviting you to the meeting?
- Is the IEP team checking the right boxes?
- Are you communicating with student services department?




## Some things our district does

- Instead of curb to curb or door to door, we write closest safest stop.
- If a student needs a restraint we write most appropriate safety restraint
- If a parent does not want transportation or only wants one way transportation we always note that on the transportation request form.

This not only helps you, but if a student moves to another district it helps them as well.



Staff Shortages  
means change





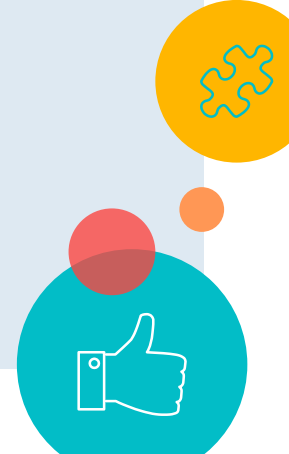
How do we stay  
in compliance  
in a time of vast  
staff shortages?

### Be Innovative

Have a wide variety of people help with solutions and outside the box thinking.

### Opportunity

View this as an opportunity to make changes that could be long term solutions.







Innovated


# Pay Parents To Drive

We pay our center program parents \$75 per day.

This can save a tremendous amount of money versus using a 3rd party depending on how far the center program is and what accommodations the student needs

We pay our in district parents the IRS mileage rate.

This is very cost effective when you have students that are outside the attendance area for their building.



# Innovated



Do you have a student that is difficult to transport? Parents don't drive or don't have an extra vehicle?

We have paid parents to ride in a cab with their student. This is especially helpful if the student has difficulty behaving during the ride to/from school.

We found this also helps with their school day.



# Opportunity

We used school paras that needed more hours to help us on the bus.

These people are already fingerprinted and on the payroll. They typically know some of the students as well.

This can get them to "full time" hours that helps with their benefits, etc.

# Opportunity

How can you use this to create partnerships within the community?

Partnerships may not be transportation related, but it does give you an opportunity to have your needs recognized. You never know how someone involved in the partnership can help.

# Opportunity

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1439002222956879872>





# Thanks!

Any questions?

Cynthia Valentine  
[cynthia.valentine@novik12.org](mailto:cynthia.valentine@novik12.org)  
248-449-1247

Shailee Patel  
[shailee.patel@novik12.org](mailto:shailee.patel@novik12.org)  
248-449-1413

